

# Ch 7: The Test of Discipleship

## Steps to Christ

### Part 1: p. 57-61

When God transforms our hearts, we become new creatures and begin to think and act in the ways of love. Service to God and others becomes the easiest and most natural thing for us to do. It is obvious to everyone around us that the power of God is working inside of us.

#### Discussion Questions

1. What are examples of things that a converted person would do? Why?
  - a. Help someone replace a flat tire
  - b. Say kind words to someone instead of mean words
  - c. Refuse to cheat on a test
  - d. Other?
2. (True/False) If you make mistakes, it means that you are unconverted (See STC 57.2).
3. What are the two ditches that Satan is trying to get us to fall into when it comes to how we are saved? Can you think of ways in which these lies manifest themselves around you?
  - a. Salvation by \_\_\_\_\_ (STC 59.4)
  - b. "Belief in Christ \_\_\_\_\_ men from \_\_\_\_\_ the law of God" (STC 60.1)

#### Activity

Open your Bible to your favorite Bible verse. With your tongue stuck to the roof of your mouth, try to sound out your favorite Bible passage. If in a group, try to speak it to someone else and have them guess your words. Next, release your tongue and recite the passage again. Discuss the difference in your ability to communicate with others and compare it to what happens when God gives us a heart of love.

### Part 2: Rest of Chapter

Christ's death on the cross allows us to accept and receive His gift of a new heart. This is a gift that we will never be able to repay Him for. As we surrender our lives to him every day, He shines His amazing love through us for the entire world to see.

#### Discussion Questions

1. According to the Bible, even the devils believe in God, but they don't have faith (Jam. 2:19). What are some ways in which you can show faith in God?
  - a. Choosing not to copy someone else's homework and trusting that God will help you
  - b. Keeping the Sabbath instead of going to work
  - c. Other?
2. (True/False) If we are in a relationship with Jesus and make a mistake, He casts us away immediately. Why or why not? (STC 64.1)
3. Read Steps to Christ 64.2. Discuss whether or not we will ever get to the place in our Christian experience when we realize that we have become perfect.

### Activity

Write a letter to God thanking Him for giving you a new heart and for how He is daily changing you into a better and more loving person. Remember that He is happy to receive this letter from you and that He loves you very much.

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## Chapter 7: Notable Quotes Activity

Locate and underline the quotes below in your copy of *Steps to Christ*. Read them at least 2x. Which of them do you think is the most:

- a. **Reassuring** b. **Amazing** c. **Exciting** d. **Thought-provoking?**

Are there others that caught your eye?

*A person may not be able to tell the exact time or place, or trace all the chain of circumstances in the process of conversion; but this does not prove him to be unconverted. (pg 57)*

*When, as erring, sinful beings, we come to Christ and become partakers of His pardoning grace, love springs up in the heart. Every burden is light, for the yoke that Christ imposes is easy. (pg 59)*

*In the heart renewed by divine grace, love is the principle of action. It modifies the character, governs the impulses, controls the passions, subdues enmity, and ennobles the affections. (pg 59)*

*We do not earn salvation by our obedience; for salvation is the free gift of God, to be received by faith . . . Here is the true test. If we abide in Christ, if the love of God dwells in us, our feelings, our thoughts, our purposes, our actions, will be in harmony with the will of God as expressed in the precepts of His holy law. (pg 61)*

*Where there is not only a belief in God's word, but a submission of the will to Him; where the heart is yielded to Him, the affections fixed upon Him, there is faith—faith that works by love and purifies the soul. (pg 63)*

*We shall often have to bow down and weep at the feet of Jesus because of our shortcomings and mistakes, but we are not to be discouraged. Even if we are overcome by the enemy, we are not cast off, not forsaken and rejected of God. No; Christ is at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. (pg 64)*

*The more our sense of need drives us to Him and to the word of God, the more exalted views we shall have of His character, and the more fully we shall reflect His image. (pg 65)*